

YELLOW SHEET REPORT



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<p>Reeves: For all its imperfections, the rule of law in this nation truly is a wonder, and it is no wonder that it is the envy of the world.</p>	<p>Gorsuch: And for all its imperfections, I believe that the rule of law in this nation truly is a wonder. And that it's no wonder that it's the envy of the world.</p>
<p>Reeves: Under our constitution, it is for the congress, the people's representatives, to make new laws, for the executive to ensure those laws are faithfully enforced, and for neutral and independent judges to apply the law in the people's disputes. If judges were just secret legislators, declaring not what the law is but what they would like it to be, the very idea of government by the people and for the people would be at risk. Those who came to the court would live in fear, never sure exactly what governs them except the judge's will. As Alexander Hamilton explained, liberty can have nothing to fear from judges who apply the law, but liberty has everything to fear if judges try to legislate too. To be a judge, and a part of such an awe-inspiring system as our system of government is, would be an honor and a privilege.</p>	<p>Gorsuch: When I put on the robe, I am also reminded that under our Constitution, it is for this body, the people's representatives, to make new laws. For the executive to ensure those laws are faithfully enforced. And for neutral and independent judges to apply the law in the people's disputes. If judges were just secret legislators, declaring not what the law is but what they would like it to be, the very idea of a government by the people and for the people would be at risk. And those who came to court would live in fear, never sure exactly what governs them except the judge's will. As Alexander Hamilton explained, "liberty can have nothing to fear from" judges who apply the law, but liberty "ha[s] every thing to fear" if judges try to legislate too.</p>
<p>Reeves: Instead, putting on a robe should remind a judge that it's time to lose her ego, and open her mind. Ours is a judiciary of plain and honest black polyester. Wearing that simple black robe, and being a part of that honest judiciary, is a goal that I find worth pursuing.</p>	<p>Gorsuch: Putting on a robe reminds us that it's time to lose our egos and open our minds. It serves, too, as a reminder of the modest station we judges are meant to occupy in a democracy. In other countries, judges wear scarlet, silk, and ermine. Here, we judges buy our own plain black robes. And I can report that the standard choir outfit at the local uniform supply store is a pretty good deal. Ours is a judiciary of honest black polyester.</p>
<p>Reeves: I believe that good judges are ones that are always open to the possibility of changing their minds based on the next brief that they read, or the next argument that is made by an attorney who is appearing before them, or a comment that is made by a colleague during discussions regarding the case</p>	<p>ALITO: Good judges are always open to the possibility of changing their minds based on the next brief that they read, or the next argument that's made by an attorney who's appearing before them, or a comment that is made by a colleague during the conference on the case when the judges privately discuss the case.</p>

<p>Reeves: Words matter and a judge's job is to follow the words that are in the law, not to replace them with words that are not</p>	<p>Gorsuch: Justice Scalia was a mentor too. He reminded us that words matter — that the judge's job is to follow the words that are in the law — not replace them with words that aren't.</p>
<p>Reeves: Sometimes, the fact that people will be affected by rulings can make a judge's job hard because sometimes, a judge's obligation to follow the law wherever it goes without fear or favor to anyone, means that a judge will reach decisions that she does not like.</p>	<p>Gorsuch: He followed the law wherever it took him without fear or favor to anyone</p>
<p>Reeves: But a legal case isn't just some number or a name; it is a person, it is a life story</p>	<p>Gorsuch: I also had the great fortune to clerk for Justice Kennedy. He showed me that judges can disagree without being disagreeable. That everyone who comes to court deserves respect. And that a legal case isn't just some number or a name but a life story.</p>
<p>Reeves: A judge who likes every outcome she reaches is probably a pretty bad judge.</p>	<p>Gorsuch: For the truth is, a judge who likes every outcome he reaches is probably a pretty bad judge</p>